

The Signs of the Times, vol. 28

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Ellet Joseph Waggoner

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1902

January 8, 1902

“Bond-Servants of Christ” The Signs of the Times, 28, 2.

E. J. Waggoner

With what has the Lord bought us? and what is the strength of our bondage to Him? “Ye were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold.... but with precious blood.... even the blood of Christ.” *1 Peter 1:18, 19*. The church of God “He hath purchased with His own blood.” *Acts 20:28*. The price paid is great enough, and the transaction is valid. *SITI January 8, 1902, page 21.1*

As great as is the price paid for us, so powerful are the bonds that hold us in our servitude to God. Hear Him: “Yes, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee.” *Jeremiah 31:3*. “I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love.” *Hosea 11:4*. Ah, then, it is not hard, cruel bondage to which we have been sold, although it is everlasting, and stronger than death. No; our fetters are bonds of love, and the service is the service of love. “This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not grievous.” *1 John 5:3*. His yoke is easy, and His burden is light. *SITI January 8, 1902, page 21.2*

Why Purchased?

Why has the Lord bought us? What does He want of us? *SITI January 8, 1902, page 21.3*

He wants to use us as instruments of righteousness through whom His will may be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Of this He assures us in the very words in which He makes known to us our lawful condition of slavery: “Know ye not that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” And stronger still: “Yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the

dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall have no dominion over you; for ye are not under the law, but under grace." *Romans 6:13, 14, 16.* E. J. WAGGONER. *SITI January 8, 1902, page 21.4*

February 26, 1902

“Christian Work” *The Signs of the Times*, 28, 9.

E. J. Waggoner

Some one has said, “Let Christ be in you, your all in all, and it will surprise you how much you can do for Him.” Yes; but it will not all be in the line of preaching and singing, or of holding Gospel conversations. These are good and necessary; but they do not by any means constitute the sum of work for Christ. The term “Christian work” is almost wholly restricted to these things, but it is a great mistake. All the work that Christ did was most certainly Christian work in the highest sense, and for eighteen years He worked as a carpenter. He spent six times as long in Christian work at the carpenter’s bench as in public teaching; and it is by that part of His life that we are saved, as much as by the latter part. Whoever does his daily task faithfully, no matter what it may be, giving diligence to become master of it, and to do it as well as it can possibly be done, is doing work for Christ; and whoever slights his work, no matter how small it may be, is not serving the Master. “Whatsoever ye do in work or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.” E. J. WAGGONER. *SITI February 26, 1902, page 133.1*

